Measuring Our Success

Above: Community members review plans for the Mystic Park branch library.

Introduction

This chapter of the Huebner/Leon Creeks Community Plan focuses on community indicators. The following indicators will be used to determine if progress is being made towards the community's goals.

National examples of indicators include the consumer price index, the number of highway-related fatalities and the national unemployment rate. Indicators used by people everyday include checking account balances or gas gauges. Indicators can be used to raise awareness of community issues, inform decision-making and identify trends. The results of the indicator analysis can be used to publicize good works or identify work what needs to be done. As required by the Unified Development Code, the community should publish a biennial progress report indicating progress on plan implementation as shown through positive changes measured by the community's indicators. The report also could call for volunteers or policy changes needed to spur action.

Heart of the Neighborhood

A house in Verde Hills

Indicator 1: Zoning and Subdivision Variances

Baseline: Ratio of number of variance applications to number of variance requests approved in 2003.

Desired Future Outcome: Reduce number of variance requests approved.

Data Source: COSA Development Services

Frequency of Review: Annually

Indicator 2: Community New Home Starts

Baseline: Number of new home starts, including apartments, in the planning area in 2003.

Desired Future Outcome: Maintain linear growth in accordance with AACOG population projections (approximately 3,500 more persons and 2,400 additional households by 2025).

Data Source: COSA Development Services

Frequency of Review: Annually

New construction at Westchase

Getting Around Town

Indicator 3: City Expenditures on Capital Projects in the Community.

Baseline: Current capital projects programmed for implementation (see appendix H).

Desired Future Outcome: Increase spending on projects identified on page 37 of the Plan until those projects are implemented.

Data Source: COSA Public Works—Capital Projects Officer, TxDOT Public Information Office, MPO

Frequency of Review: Annually

Low water crossing in the community

Indicator 4: Bicycle Network

Baseline: No bicycle network.

Desired Future Outcome: Increase mileage of bicycle network with routes identifed on page 37.

Data Source: COSA Public Works, COSA Parks & Recreation, MPO

Frequency of Review: Every five years

Example of an on street bicycle lane

Bus stop in Austin, TX

VIA bus stops in the Medical Center

Indicator 5: VIA Bus Stops with Amenities

Baseline: VIA stops with trees, benches, sidewalk access and other amenities in 2003.

Desired Future Outcome: Increase percentage of area bus stops with amenities.

Data Source: VIA, Neighborhood Survey

Frequency of Review: Every five years

Places Where We Play, Gather & Learn

Indicator 6: Park Access Points

Baseline: Park access points in 2003.

Desired Future Outcome: Provide defined, delineated level 2 or easier park access in accordance with the Plan.

Data Source: COSA Parks & Recreation, Neighborhood Survey

Frequency of Review: Every two years

Indicator 7: Acreage of Parkland in the Community

Baseline: Current acreage of parks and open space in the Community.

Desired Future Outcome: Increase amount of land devoted to parks and open space.

Data Source: COSA Parks and Recreation, Neighborhood Survey

Frequency of Review: Every two years

Trail head in O. P. Schnabel Park

Greenbelt in Austin, TX